

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION **NEWS RELEASE**

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- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -

Carson City, Nevada, November 24, 2009 – 2010 Nevada Teacher of the Year Dr. Keith Rheault, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Nevada Department of Education announced today that Kathleen L Schaeffer, a Mathematics teacher at Bob Miller Middle School, in Henderson, Nevada has been selected as the 2010 Nevada Teacher of the Year.

Superintendent Rheault stated, "It gives me great pleasure to recognize Nevada's Teacher of the Year for 2010. Teacher of the Year candidates must be able to inspire students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn. They should have the respect and admiration of students, parents and colleagues, and should play an active role in the community, as well as in the school. Ms. Schaeffer is an outstanding teacher who exemplifies the high expectations of the Teacher of the Year Program." Mr. Tam Larnerd, Principal of Bob Miller Middle School described Ms. Schaeffer as a person willing to go *above and beyond* for her students. Cherri Bieschke, co-teacher with Ms. Schaeffer has witnessed Kathleen's efforts to transform her students with confidence and knowledge. In her students learning environment, everyone is treated with respect and compassion.

Ms. Schaeffer holds a Master's is of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Las Vegas, and is Nationally Board Certified in Adolescent Mathematics. She has been employed with the Clark County School District since 1988.

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In her application, Ms. Schaeffer credits her mother as her greatest inspiration. Her mother was a teacher who continued her education throughout her life and taught her that learning is a never-ending journey and a key to independence and self-fulfillment. Ms. Schaeffer's philosophy for teaching is "I strive to be the teacher I would choose for my own child and I believe that every child deserves to have that same teacher."

"It is an honor to forward Ms. Schaeffer's application for consideration as the 2010 National Teacher of the Year," Dr. Rheault said. Ms. Schaeffer will now compete for the National Honor with the winners from the other 49 states and US territories. The National Teacher of the Year Program, sponsored by ING, is a project of the Council of Chief State School Officers.

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